

## **Minutes of a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life Held on March 21, 1997 at 10:00am, AD 131**

**Present:** Mr. A. Feldman, Acting Chair, Ms J. Hackett, Secretary, Dr. S.M. Graub, Ms. N. Torbit, Ms A. Kerby, Mr. R. Côté, Ms A. Ghadban, Mr. H. Zarins, Professor B. Barbieri, Ms J. Starkman, Ms C. Cogger, Ms S. Kiruluta, Ms M. West, Ms J. Beaudoin, Ms C. Hughes, Ms L. Lipscombe, Mr. M. Bujold, Mr. R. MacIver

**Absent with Regrets:** Dr. D. Boisvert, Ms E. Robinson, Mr. A. Zakka, Dr. R. Bonin, Mr. A. Youness,

**Delegates:** Ms G. Pannetta replaced Ms K. Hedrich, Ms S. Maynes replaced Dr. M. Barlow, Ms C. Hedrich replaced Ms A. Vroom

**Guests:** Ms C. Boujaklian

### **1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Ms Cogger and seconded by Mr. Zarins. The agenda was approved without amendments.

### **2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR**

As Dr. Boisvert was out of town on business, Mr. Feldman announced that he had been asked to chair the meeting.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MEETING OF FEBRUARY 14, 1997**

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms West, seconded by Ms Torbit. The motion was carried.

### **4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

### **5. ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

Mr. Feldman reminded Council that the CCSL Awards nomination period closed on March 24th and encouraged Council members to support this important event. Mr. Côté brought Council up to date on the Concordia Co-Op bankruptcy situation. He reiterated that the Co-op's affairs were being handled by the trustee (Davis & Associates) but that letters were being sent out to the Concordia students who had computer loans advising them to contact the Financial Office as soon as possible. The office will then have a centralized list of students who are adversely affected. Mr. Côté will keep Council informed as more information becomes available. Ms Lipscombe confirmed that Bill 32, the act restricting access to used books, was passed through the House of Commons.

She confirmed she will be meeting shortly with Heritage Canada to discuss how these restrictions would impact on students across Canada. Ms West announced there was a fundraiser for the Day Care at Reggie's that evening and encouraged all Council members to support this event.

## **6. REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS**

Mr. Feldman turned the "stage" over to Mr. Côté for the Financial Aid Presentation. Mr. Côté first gave Council a general overview of the services of Financial Aid. Then through a series of graphs and over-head projections, he explained how the need for financial assistance has increased enormously for our students over the past years. It also became very clear as the presentation continued that the need to offer varied and substantial scholarships to attract students was lacking at Concordia, especially in comparison with other Canadian universities. On a positive note, Mr. Côté said how pleased he was with the strong student support to the Capital Campaign. Ms Hedrich said she understands much more clearly the **urgent** need for financial assistance for our students. She felt that the whole university community could benefit from this presentation. Discussion arose on how we could do this. Professor Barbieri mentioned having a one page E-mail on the scholarship situation sent out to the community. Mr. Côté informed Council he had made this same presentation to the Board of Governors and that he "had papers and will travel". On behalf of Council, Mr. Feldman thanked Mr. Côté for an informative and thought-provoking presentation.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a) Proposed Student Services Operating Budget and Fee Increase:** In Dr. Boisvert's absence Mr. Feldman asked Mr. Côté to give the introductory remarks. Mr. Côté stated the Directors and the student caucus had met several times to discuss the budget proposal and any concerns the students may have had. What Council has before them is a 3 year balanced budget. Ms Kerby reiterated that in the deliberations, the recommendations from the Student Services Review were taken into account as well as issues surrounding maintaining a high quality of service, student retention, and the possibility of creating student job opportunities in our areas. Mr. Feldman asked for a motion to receive the budget. The motion was made by Ms West, seconded by Ms Ghadban. It was decided to discuss the budget department by department rather than as a whole. Each Director briefly introduced their budget and received questions of clarification from Council. After the question period was finished, Professor Barbieri asked if the students were in agreement with the proposed budget. The student representation affirmed they were in agreement. Mr. Feldman reiterated that the student caucus had had two meetings with the Directors and were confident that their concerns had been addressed. A motion was made to accept the Student Services Budget Proposal and the corresponding fee increase for the next three years, 1997-2000. The motion was passed unanimously.

## **8. NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be Friday, April 18 at 10am in Hall 769

## **9. TERMINATION OF MEETING:**

A motion to terminate the meeting was made by Mr. Côté, seconded by Ms West at 12:00noon.